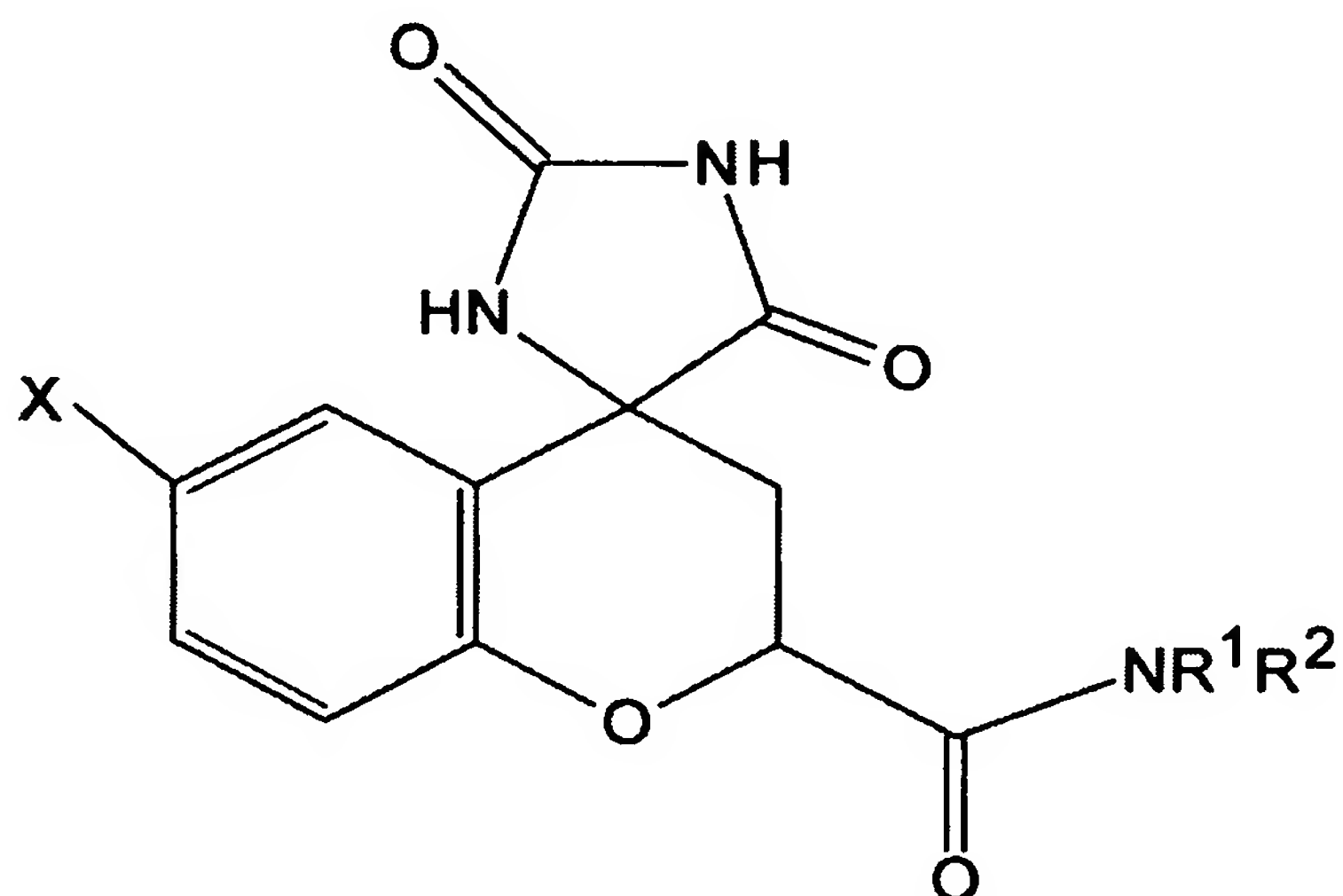


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

5. (New) A method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy in a mammal comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound represented by the following general formula:



wherein X represents a halogen or a hydrogen atom, R¹ and R² concurrently or differently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted C1 to C6 alkyl group, or R¹ and R², together with a nitrogen atom bound thereto and optionally another nitrogen atom or an oxygen atom, are combined to form a 5- to 6-membered heterocycle.

6. (New) The method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, wherein the compound is (2S,4S)-6-fluoro-2', 5'-dioxospiro[chroman-4, 4'-imidazolidine]-2-carboxamide.

7. (New) The method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, which is used for suppressing development into proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

8. (New) The method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, which is used for suppressing development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy and/or proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

9. (New) The method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 6, which is used for suppressing development into proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

10. (New) The method for ameliorating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 6, which is used for suppressing development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy and/or proliferative diabetic retinopathy.